



# IDEAS FROM WASTE MATERIALS



BAL BHAVAN SOCIETY (INDIA)  
KOTLA ROAD NEW DELHI-110002



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## **FOREWORD**

Bal Bhavan encourages children and adults learning by doing. In this process everyone develops a keen power of observation and a sense of seeing beyond the obvious, and creating something from imagination and the available material at hand, including waste. This unique activity helps the child to interact with his immediate environment and ordinary day-to-day things and discover the joys of creativity and fulfilment.

The foregoing pages give an idea of their work in handicrafts unit of the Creative Arts Section. This I hope will help both the children, adults & teachers.

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## **SOME SKILLS THE CHILD CAN CULTIVATE FOR HANDLING WASTE**

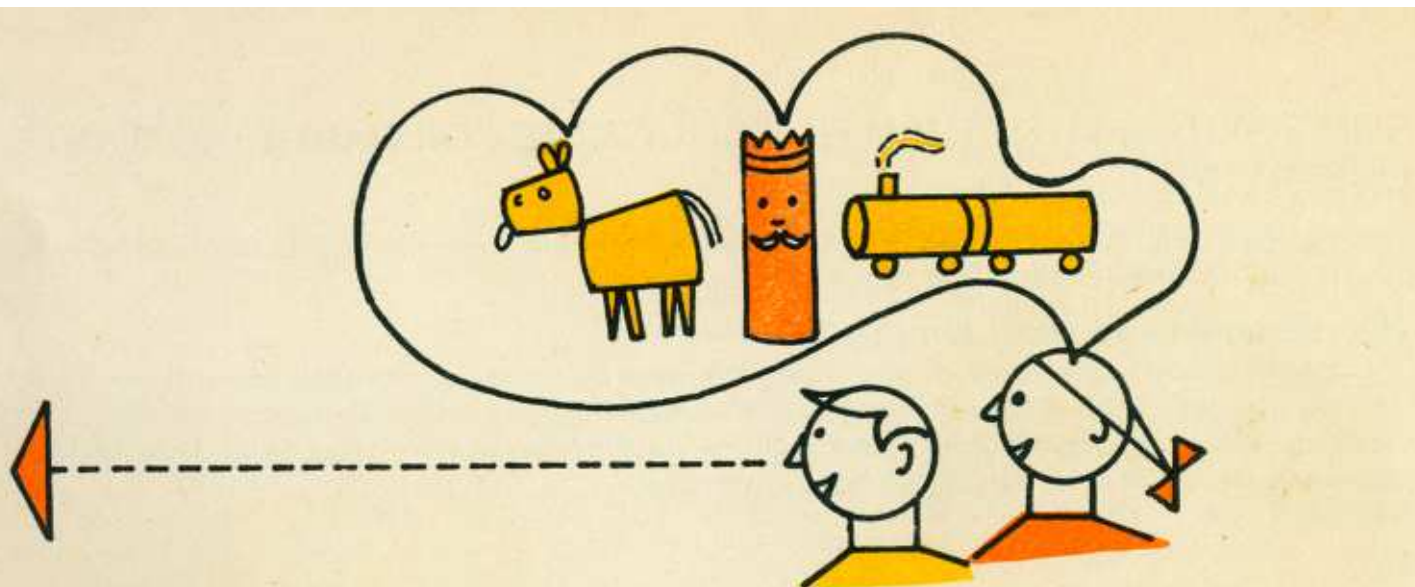
### **OBSERVING :**

The child can be encouraged to observe environment. Examples of turning waste into useful and aesthetic objects can help children to look at things more meaningfully.

### **USE OF HANDS AND MIND TOGETHER**

The children should be motivated to take up projects which do not only give mental exercise but make the child use the hands and body as well. This co-ordination at an early age will make the life more realistic for the child. Cutting, pasting, bending, joining, painting, stitching are some of the basic skills. They will be of great use to the child in his or her creative constructions.





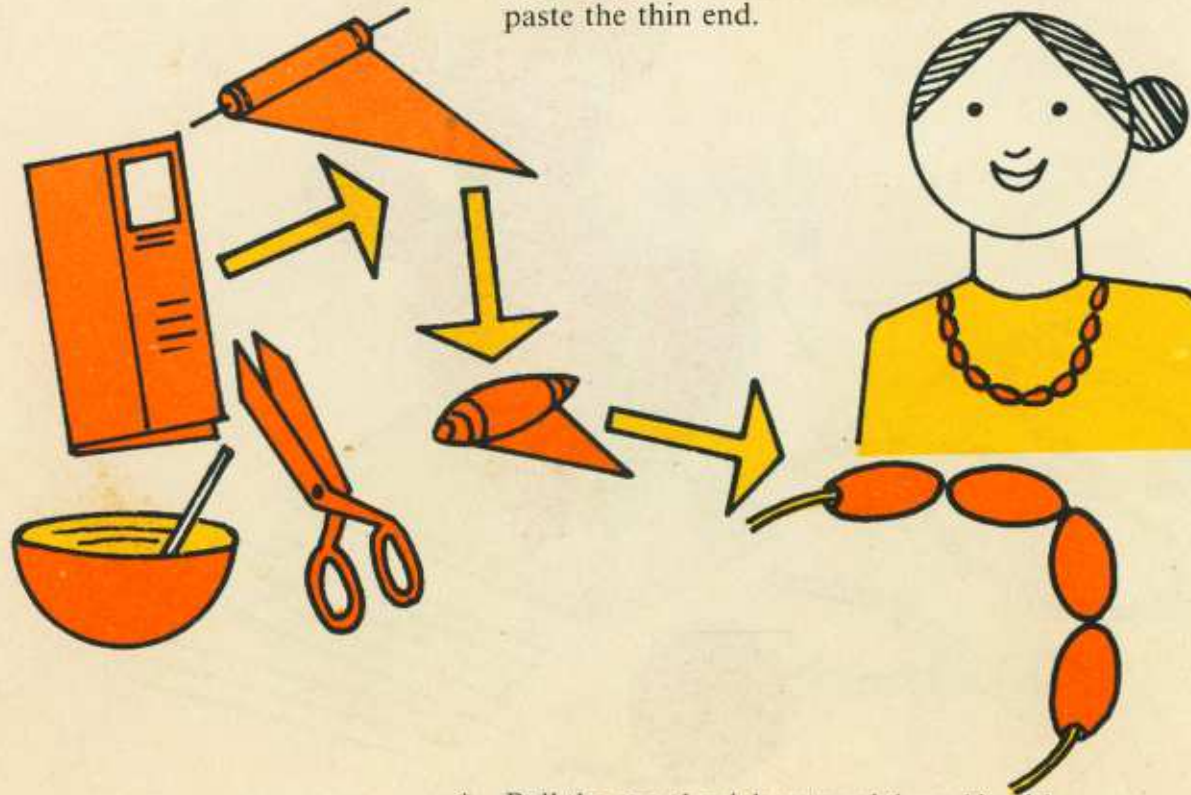
## NO WASTE FOR A CHILD . . . . .

A child's mind is always alert for new ideas. Things seem to have a special meaning for him as he concocts 'telephones' with old tins and strings or turns a throw away cycle wheel into a lively game. There is no such thing as waste in his world for he has utility for everything he can lay hands on. Here are a few simple projects to motivate the child to develop a keen sense of observation, an awareness for beauty and a coordination of ideas and expressions.

Here are given only broad hints and the child should tryout various methods himself or herself.

## PAPER BEADS

- \* Cut out thin, long triangular pieces from old magazines.
- \* Beginning at the broader end, roll the strip tightly around a match stick and paste the thin end.



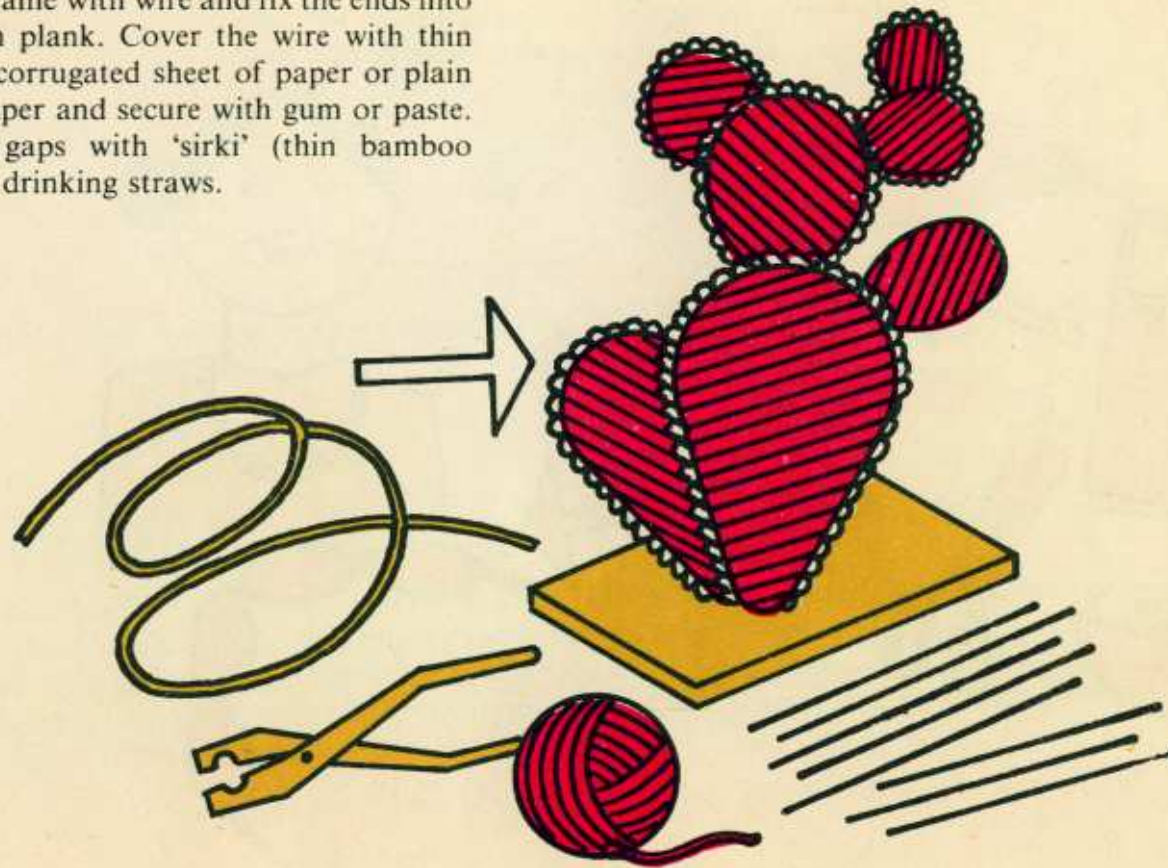
- \* Pull the match stick out and thread it with a needle.

Note :

Can you use beads in any other way ?

### MODELS FROM WIRE

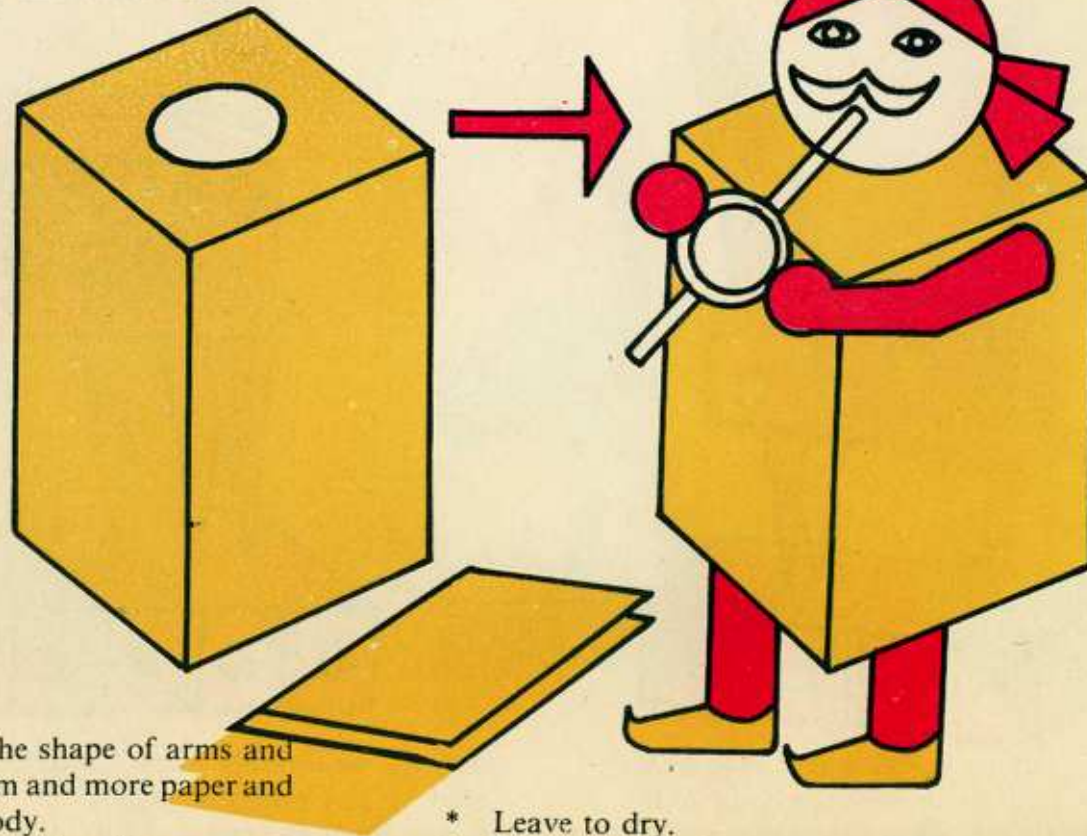
Make a frame with wire and fix the ends into a wooden plank. Cover the wire with thin strips of corrugated sheet of paper or plain brown paper and secure with gum or paste. Fill the gaps with 'sirki' (thin bamboo strips) or drinking straws.



### TIN MAN

Stuff a brown paper bag with old news paper and fix over the mouth of the tin to make the head.

- \* Paste plenty of newspaper over the tin, neck and face and smoothen it out.



- \* Crush paper into the shape of arms and legs. Cover with gum and more paper and attach to the tin body.
- \* Cover the body evenly with gum and newspaper.

- \* Leave to dry.
- \* Dress up the body accordingly to the personality you wish to create.

### ANIMALS FROM CARDBOARD BOXES :

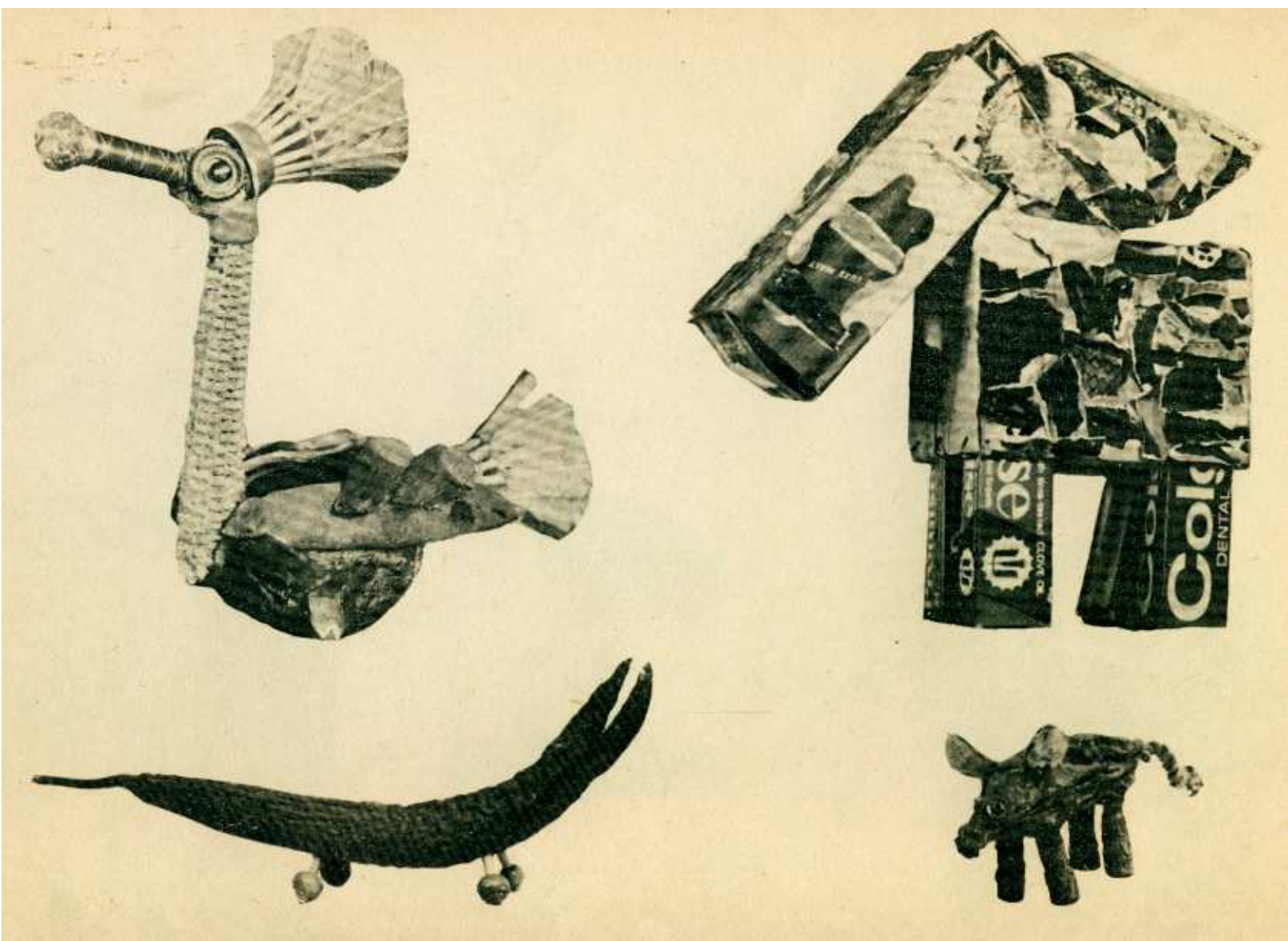


Make cones to represent legs, neck, head, ears and tail and fix them to the body. Make up the animals by sticking buttons or beads for eyes and decorating with colourful

designs made from paper, beads, mirrors, seeds or any available material.

Note : What else can you make with the help of cones ?

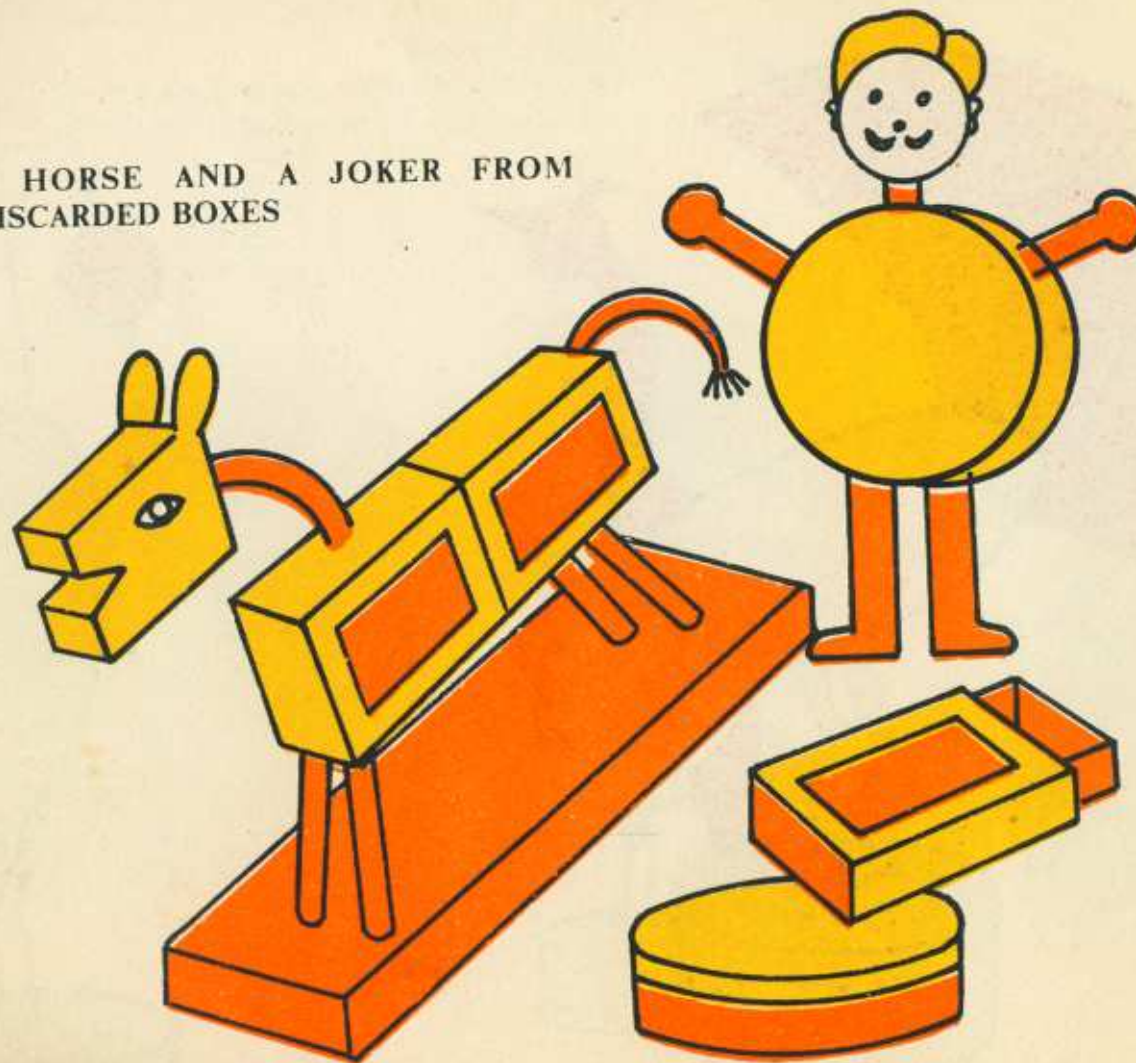








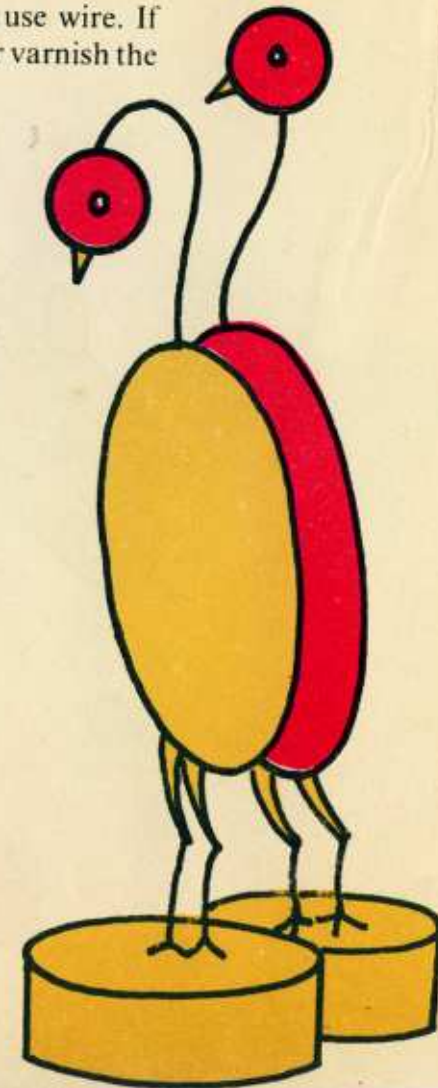
A HORSE AND A JOKER FROM  
DISCARDED BOXES



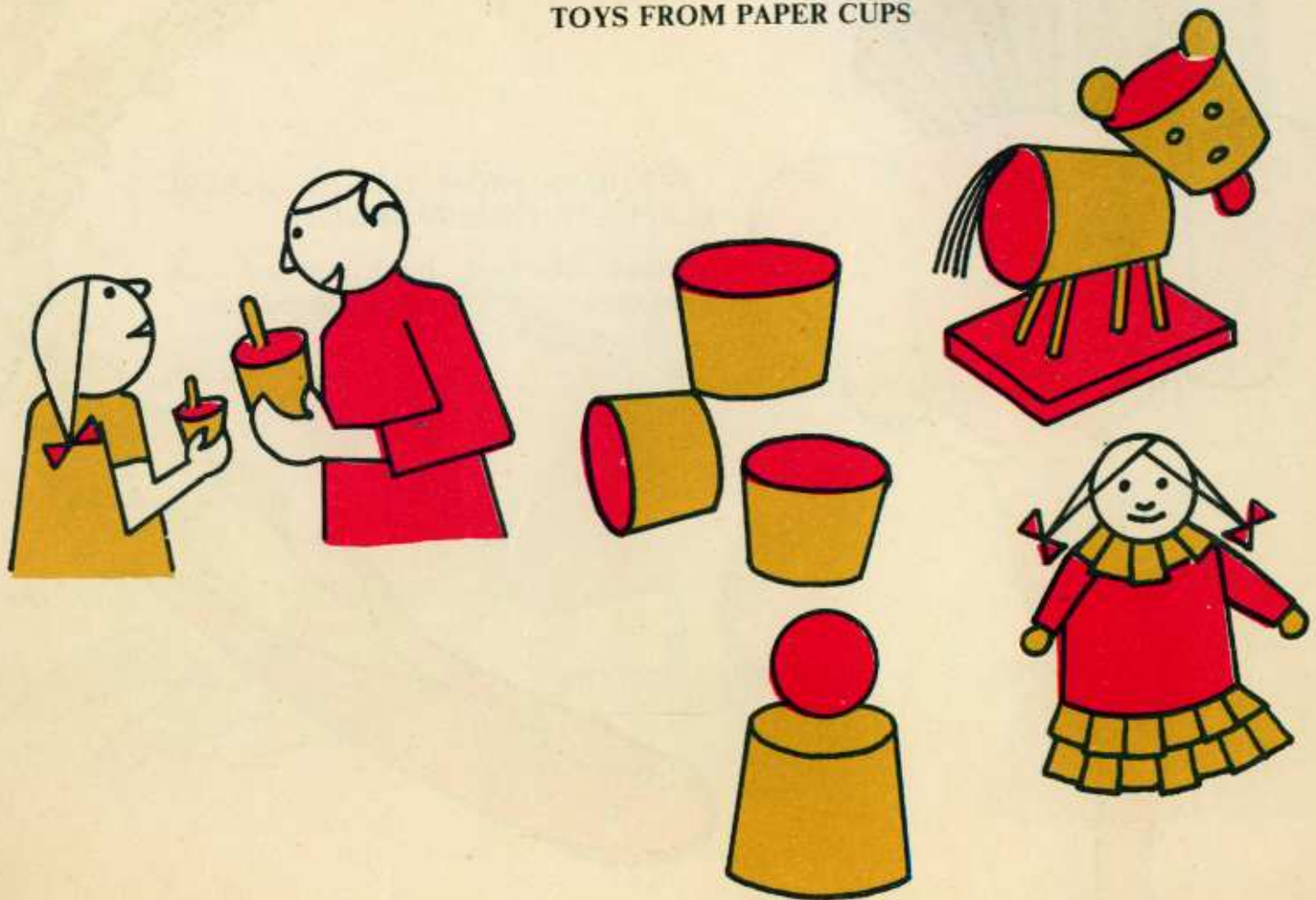
## PEACOCKS AND CRANES

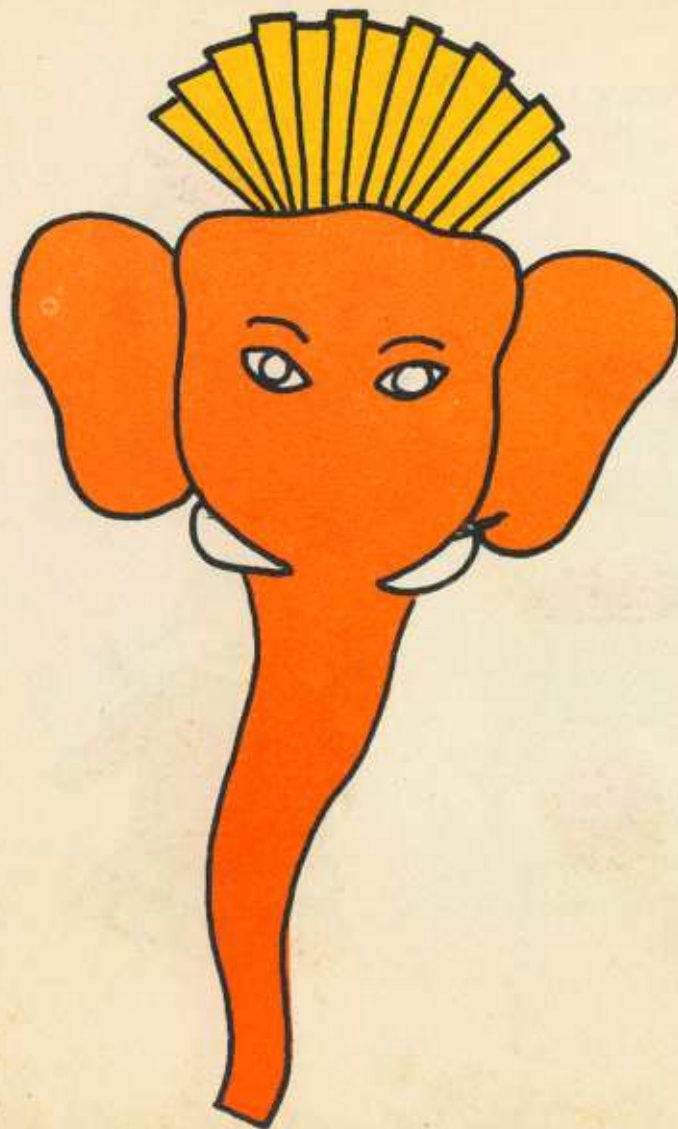
Join the 'tail' and 'head' shapes of cardboard to the mango seed.

\* For necks of cranes you can use wire. If liked you may paint, colour or varnish the 'birds'.



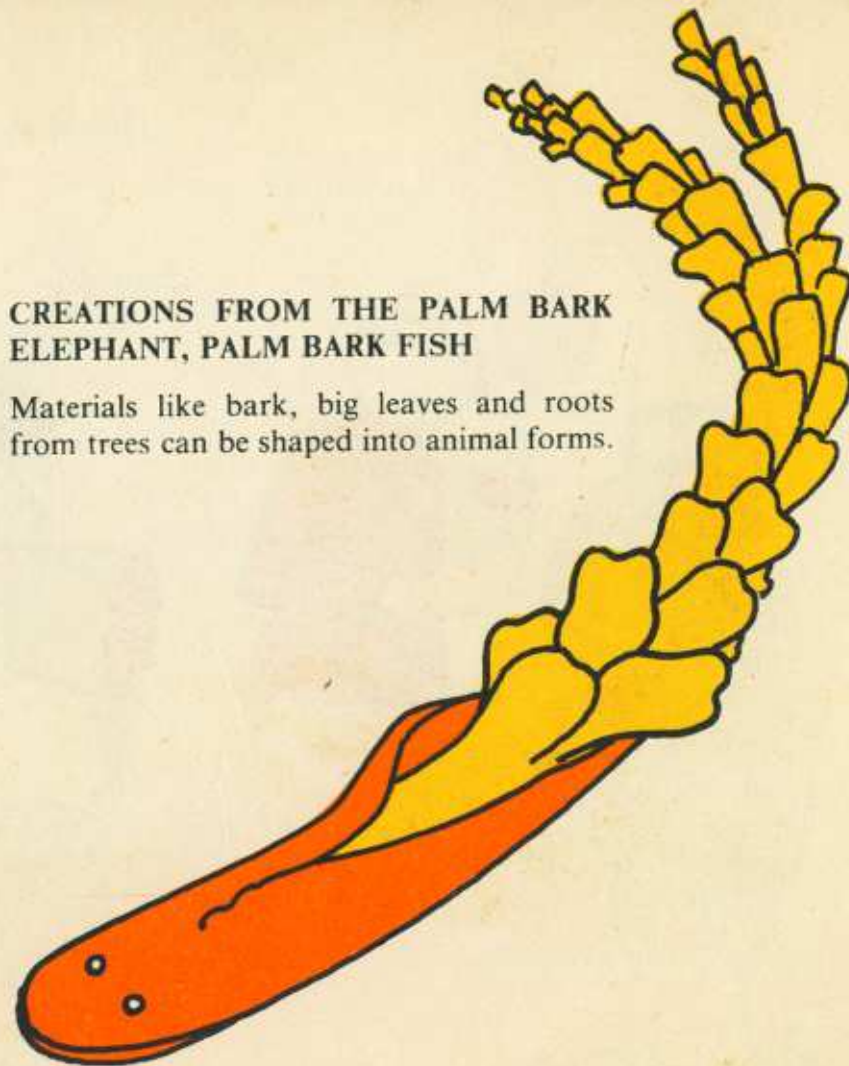
# TOYS FROM PAPER CUPS





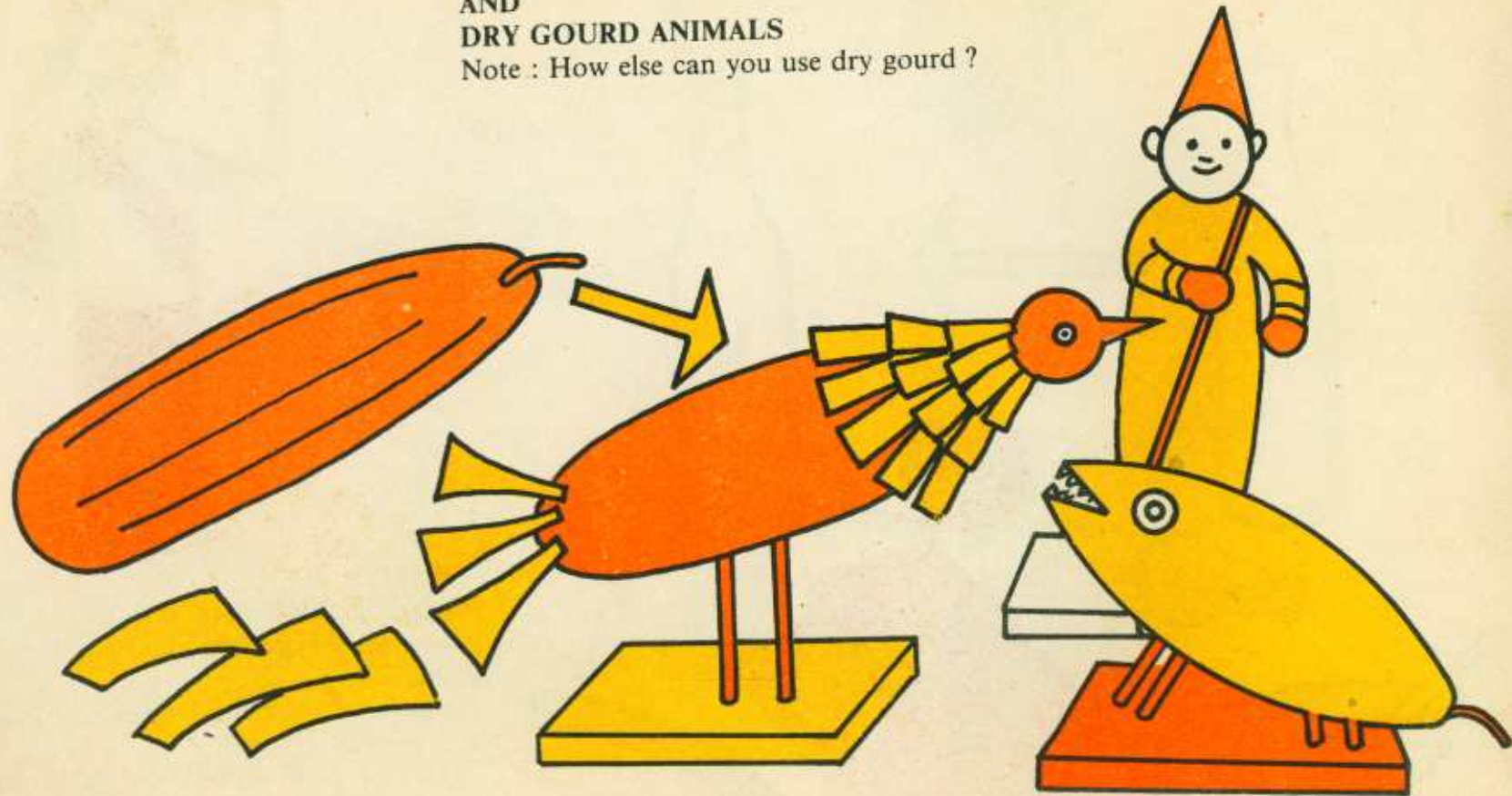
**CREATIONS FROM THE PALM BARK  
ELEPHANT, PALM BARK FISH**

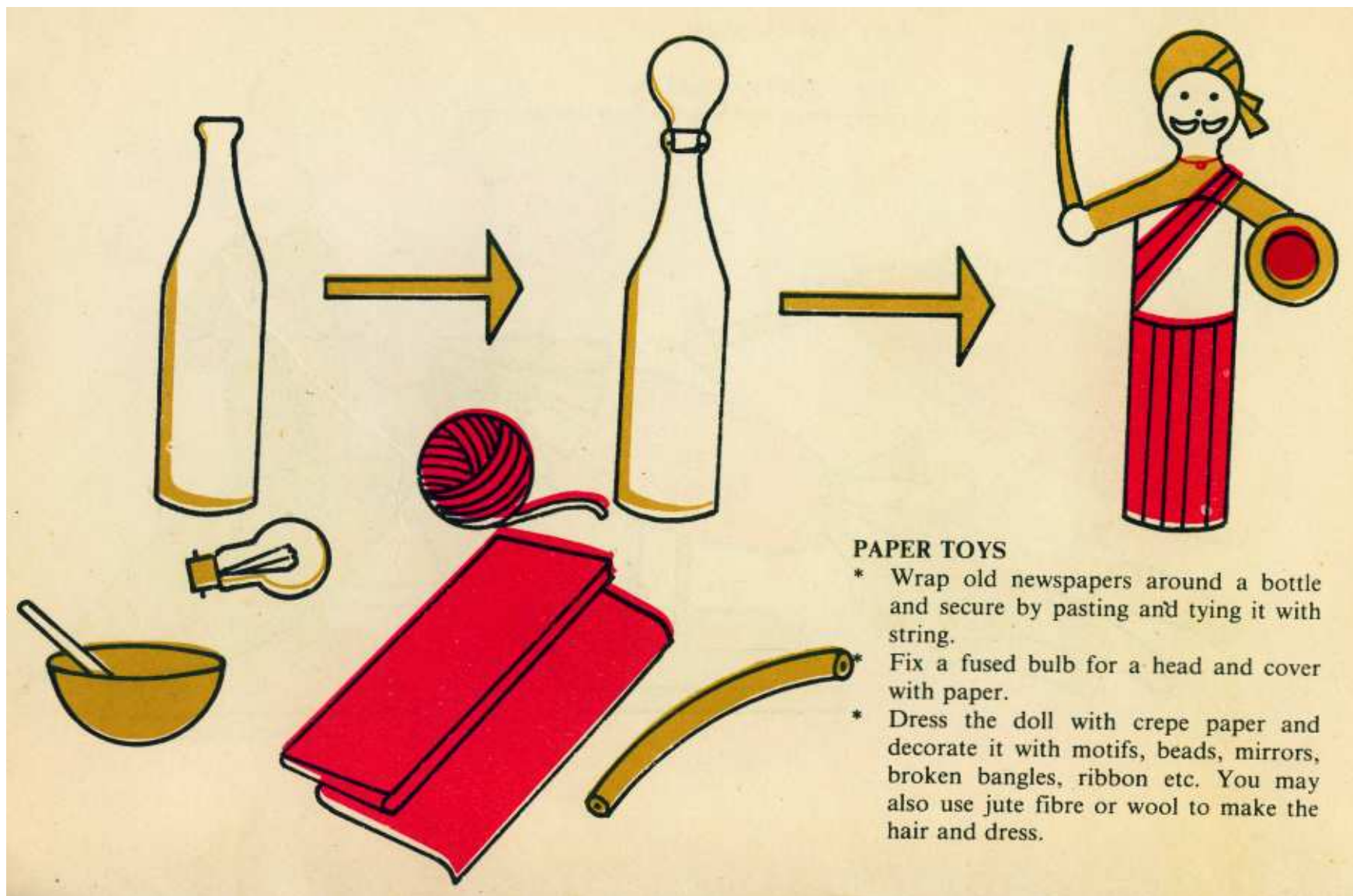
Materials like bark, big leaves and roots  
from trees can be shaped into animal forms.



**DRY GOURD BIRD  
AND  
DRY GOURD ANIMALS**

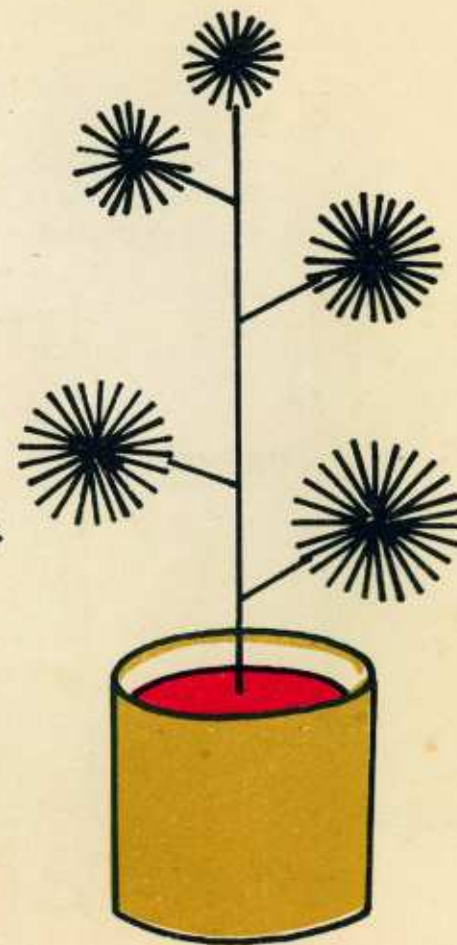
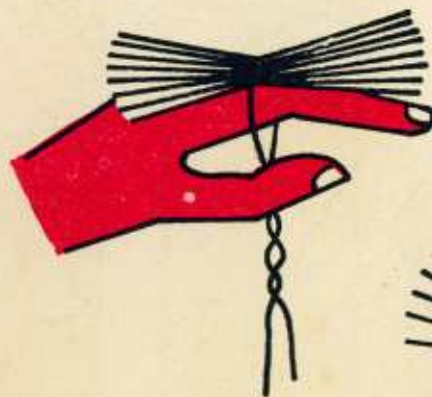
Note : How else can you use dry gourd ?





#### PAPER TOYS

- \* Wrap old newspapers around a bottle and secure by pasting and tying it with string.
- \* Fix a fused bulb for a head and cover with paper.
- \* Dress the doll with crepe paper and decorate it with motifs, beads, mirrors, broken bangles, ribbon etc. You may also use jute fibre or wool to make the hair and dress.

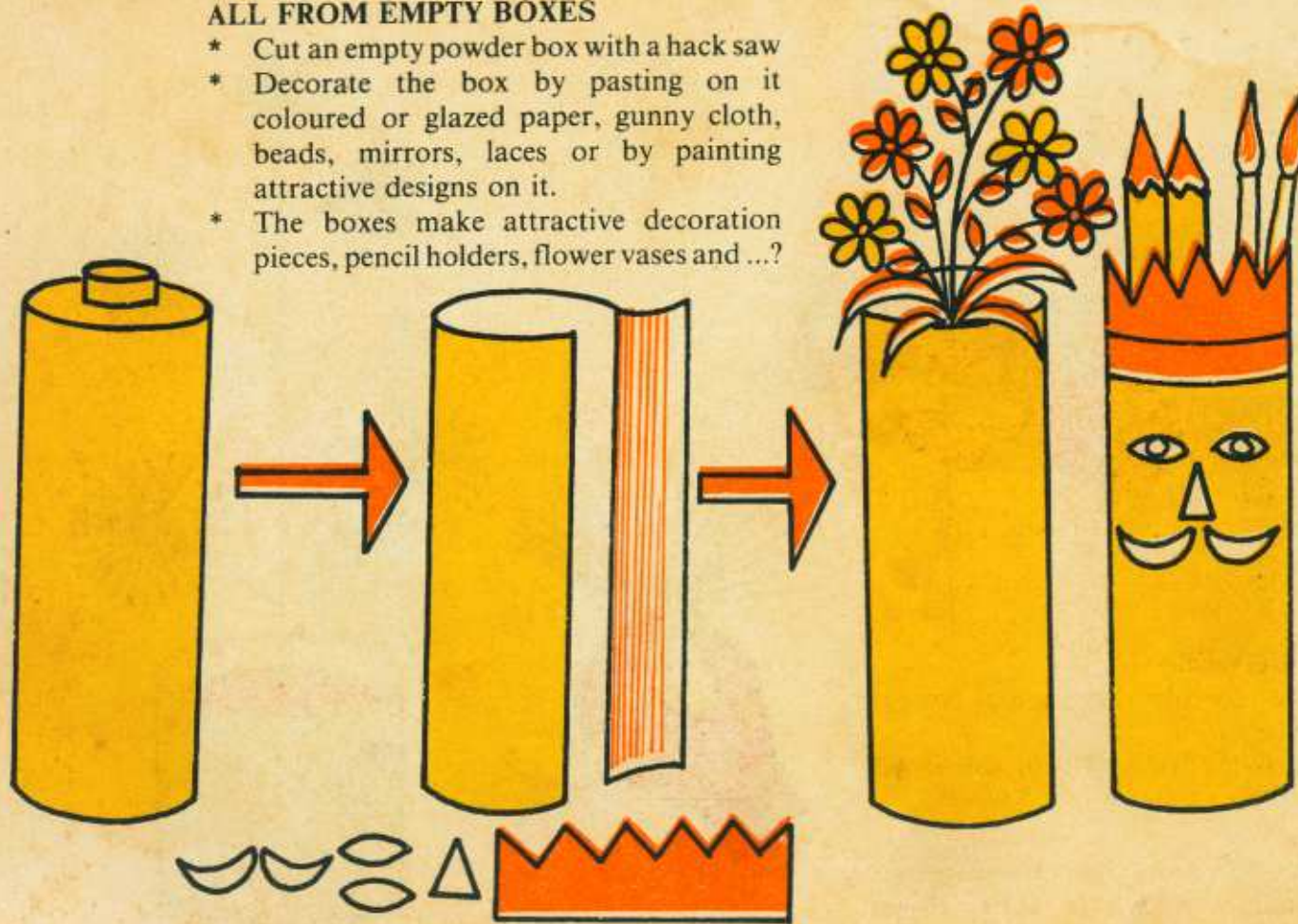


### JUTE FLOWERS

- \* Hold the jute fiber firmly and wrap a wire around it.
- \* Twist the wire firmly. The jute fibre will round off into a flower.
- \* Note :  
Wrap jute fibre around wire frame to make an animal or a doll or a dry flower arrangement.

### ALL FROM EMPTY BOXES

- \* Cut an empty powder box with a hack saw
- \* Decorate the box by pasting on it coloured or glazed paper, gunny cloth, beads, mirrors, laces or by painting attractive designs on it.
- \* The boxes make attractive decoration pieces, pencil holders, flower vases and ...?





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